



Vol. XL No. 51 December 22, 2024 Baguio City, Philippines

**Mission & Vision** We are committed to give God glory, praise, and honor as we serve in making disciples of Christ. We envision ourselves to be a congregation of worshippers of God in spirit and in truth, and to be a living demonstration of the presence and power of our Lord Jesus Christ in a community of faith, hope, and love.

**“Life is better when you cry a little, laugh a lot, and are thankful for everything you've got.”**

**READ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

**INSIDE PAGE:**  
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**Servers Today, December 22, 2024**

**A Theological Question About Salvation (Luke 13:22-30)**

Speaker: *JOJO RAMOS*  
 Song Leader: *MERVIN OLIVA*  
 Invocation: *ERNIE WAGANG*  
 Intercessory Prayer: *NOEL ESPINOSA*  
 Communion Text: *JOHN 6:53-58*  
 Scripture Reading: *JEREMIE CRAIG LICUPA*  
 Prayer for the Bread: *RICHARD BESTRE*  
 Prayer for the Cup: *KAJEM KITMA*  
 Prayer for the Giving: *JANRIEL ABANCE*  
 Closing Prayer: *GREG KITMA*  
 Announcement: *ANDY BESTRE*  
 Afternoon Speaker: *FELIX OLIDAN JR.*  
 Song Leader: *MERVIN OLIVA*  
 To Bring Flowers: *VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*  
 To Bring Biscuits: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 To Bring Drinks: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 Usher/ettes: *PERDIGON FAMILY*

Communion: *NELLY & CHARIS BAYLA*  
 Worship Coordinator: *EZRA VALDEZ | ART TACAY*

PM Bible Study:

**Servers for December 29, 2024**

**A Personal Question About Danger (Luke 13:31-35)**

Speaker: *DODOY SAMEON*  
 Song Leader: *ANDY BESTRE*  
 Invocation: *CHARLIE ABANCE*  
 Intercessory Prayer: *ART TACAY*  
 Communion Text: *ROMANS 6:1-8*  
 Scripture Reading: *MARK QUIZANA*  
 Prayer for the Bread: *LEEMAR SIMON*  
 Prayer for the Cup: *LEMUEL GLORI*  
 Prayer for the Giving: *SAM QUEZADA*  
 Closing Prayer: *JOJO RAMOS*  
 Announcement: *FELIX OLIDAN JR.*  
 Afternoon Speaker: *DODOY SAMEON*  
 Song Leader: *ANDY BESTRE*  
 To Bring Flowers: *VOLUNTEERS NEEDED*  
 To Bring Biscuits: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 To Bring Drinks: *C/O MIDTOWN*  
 Usher/ettes: *BAYLA FAMILY*

Communion: *NELLY & CHARIS BAYLA*  
 Worship Coordinator: *EZRA VALDEZ | ART TACAY*

**LAST SUNDAY'S RECORD**  
 December 15, 2024

**ATTENDANCE**

REGULAR WORSHIP ASSEMBLY AM & PM	SUNDAY SCHOOL
ADULTS.....215	PRE-SCHOOL.....00
YPEEZ.....57	GRADES 1-2 .....00
CHILDREN.....42	GRADES 3-4 .....00
GUESTS.....10	GRADES 5-6 .....00
TOTAL.....324	H.S.....00
	COL/YAs.....00
	ADULT Classes.....00
	TOTAL.....00

**OFFERING**  
 AM & PM: P84,456.00

**PRAYER LIST**

**FOR GOOD HEALTH & RECOVERY BRETHREN:**  
 \*GLORIA YANG  
 \*JOSEFA JOSAYAN  
 \*DONNA GERON  
 \*PRISCILLA BAYASEN  
 \*DODOY & SARAH SAMEON  
 \*DITH ZAMORA  
 \*TESS KITMA  
 \*BERNARD IGNACIO  
 \*JONATHAN ENERVA  
 \*CESAR ACOSTA  
 \*JOCELYN CALIXTRO  
 \*JOVITA BONDOC  
 \*ELLA GAROY  
 \*LORENZA LOSNONG  
 \*ERNIE ORDUÑA, JR.

\*FLORA CAMPOAS  
 \*CLYDE ABANCE  
 \*MELBA LICUPA  
 \*NIDA GABRIEL  
 \*CHARLIE ABANCE  
 \*BERNABE IGNACIO  
 \*MARIL BAYATING, SR  
 \*LILY SORIANO  
 \*CARLOTA CERA  
 \*SHAMAE RAMOS

**REQUESTED BY BRETHREN:**  
 \*CARMEN VILLANUEVA  
 \*MARILIZA ANDALLO  
 \*DIANA TAGUIBA  
 \*PHILIP BADUA  
 \*FRANKY SANCHI  
 \*RYN EISEN PANGANIBAN  
 \*IAN PAJANTOY  
 \*JAYVEE MAGPAYO  
 \*GASPAR NAWEW  
 \*JERALD BACOY  
 \*JEHMELO OFRENEO

**SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE**  
 \*LOCAL, NATIONAL, WORLD LEADERS & GOVERNMENT  
 \*ON-GOING SEEKERS' BS  
 \*ON-GOING FOLLOW-UP BS  
 \*OPPORTUNITIES TO PREACH THE GOSPEL

**OTHER CONCERNS**  
 Safe Travel:  
 \*BRETHREN TRAVELLING FOR THE HOLIDAY BREAK.  
 \*PARTICIPANTS TO THE CHRISTIAN YOUTH CAMP, ACU, BUGALLON, PANGASINAN



**ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

- **NO TUESDAY CHURCH FORUM** —ON DECEMBER 24 & 31, 2024 | RESUMES JANUARY 7, 2025 | 12 PM
- **YOUNG PEOPLE'S YEARENDER**—KITMA YARD, KITMA VILLAGE | OVERNIGHT FRIDAY & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27 & 28, 2024 | BRING A UNISEX GIFT FOR THE GIFT GAME, SOMETHING THAT ISN'T BEING USED AT HOME. FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT BROTHER EZRA VALDEZ
- **YOUNG PEOPLE WITH PARENTS CARE GROUP & FELLOWSHIP**—MOVED TO NEXT YEAR AND WILL SERVE AS A YEARENDER ACTIVITY | PLEASE WATCH FOR THE UPDATES TO BE RELEASED SOON.
- **CHRISTIAN YOUTH CAMP**—ACU CAMPUS, SALOMAGUE SUR, BUGALLON, PANGASINAN | DEC 22-25, 2024 |
- **NATIONAL LADIES RETREAT**—TAGAYTAY CITY | APRIL 22-25, 2025 | SIGN UP UNTIL DECEMBER 15, 2024.
- **READING CENTER**—AT THE MIDTOWN ASSEMBLY HALL | EVERY FRIDAY | OPENS 9 AM—CLOSES 3 PM

**314 celebrate 41st anniversary & Pasasalamat**

A total of 314 worshippers including children and guests attended the WORSHIP ASSEMBLY at the 41ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION & PASASALAMAT at RIVERVIEW WATERPARK HOTEL in Nangalisan, Tuba, last Sunday, December 15th. Some brethren from the Bokod congregation and most members of the Nangalisan congregation joined the celebration and conveyed jublations over the Lord's work being done at Midtown. Special presentations from Midtown's YOUNG ADULTS & YOUNG PEOPLE as well as from the SUNDAY SCHOOL children contributed to a fitting celebration of the Lord's work being done at Midtown and elsewhere.

Again, Midtown thanks RIVERVIEW for the usual accommodation, generosity, and hospitality. Thanks too to spouses Joseph Benedict & Wynell Roncal, former members at Midtown before moving to the USA, for donating two whole pieces of *Lechon Baboy* which added a touch of festivity in the thanksgiving celebration. God bless you all richly!

Meanwhile more than a hundred brethren participated in the one-day CHURCH CAMP held at the same venue a day prior the PASASALAMAT. All participants had a good feedback on the overall camp program, and are looking forward to the next one next year. To God be the glory! Ω

**YPeez yearender activity downtown and Kitma village**

The YOUTH MINISTRY is preparing for the YOUNG PEOPLE'S YEARENDER ACTIVITY with the theme; "LEVEL UP: GOD'S THE MAIN CHARACTER" scheduled on December 27 & 28, 2024 (Friday & Saturday). Activities include the traditional "AMAZING RACE" to kick off at downtown Baguio and culminating in a SLEEPOVER CAMP at the AVONG NEN KITMA.

REGISTRATION FEE is P250.00 inclusive of food and lodging. Please contact brother Ezra Valdez for more details. For God's glory and praise!Ω

**Brethren appeal for help for victims of tragic accident**

Last Tuesday, December 17th, the CHURCH FORUM has responded, in behalf of the MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST, to an appeal for help by our dear brethren from Mindanao in behalf of victims of a tragic vehicular accident. Midtown has donated the amount of FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00). Here's an excerpt from the appeal: *"Dear friends, family, and compassionate hearts, I am reaching out on behalf of my family and our congregation as we face a devastating tragedy. I write to you not just as a family member but as one of the deacons of our congregation, entrusted to support our members in times of need. On December 16, 2024, around 12:30 PM, a tragic accident occurred at Purok 1, Mauswagon, Laguindingan, Misamis Oriental, which deeply affected our church family. Several members were injured, and heartbreakingly, we lost three beloved individuals. VICTIM LIST: Delia Blen (Shoulder fracture), Feliciano Blen (Lumbar fracture), Phoebe Tobias (Head and back minor injury), Francine Duque (Back injury), Emmanuel Sam Tobias (Critical), Sonny Jun Tobias (Hypertensive), Mary Joy Tobias (Safe), Queenie Tobias (Safe). DECEASED: Bernabe Duque, Renante Patiig, and Tita Escoro."*

Your prayers, kindness, and compassion during this difficult time are truly appreciated. Together, we can bring healing and hope to those who need it most. Thank you, and may God bless you all." As of this writing, Emmanuel Sam Tobias succumbed to his injuries, making him the 4th casualty.

Midtown brethren are encouraged to send personal donations and can be directly sent to this BANK ACCOUNT: BPI SA: LEMUEL CABA BLEN, Acct# 2199 0471 27. Ω

# By Faith

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”  
(Hebrews 11:1)

This great verse, evidently a definition of faith, appears to be somewhat obtuse, but it can be properly understood. The word “substance” carries the sense of reality or assurance. The same author uses the word to explain that the Son of God took on human “substance,” consisting of “the express image of his person [or ‘substance’]” (Hebrews 1:3). The word “evidence” is more properly translated “proof.” The passage teaches, then, that **faith provides the reality and proof of things that we can’t see directly.** They are as sure to us, through faith, as things we can see directly.

Faith enters into the picture whenever we attempt to understand something outside the realm of empirical observation. This surely includes creation. “Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear” (Hebrews 11:3). Creationist faith is certainly reasonable faith, in stark contrast to evolutionist faith, which believes in ordered complexity from disorder without any ordering mechanism or outside intelligence.

Faith is extremely important in God’s economy: “Without faith it is impossible to please him” (Hebrews 11:6) in any area of life. “For by grace are ye saved through faith” (Ephesians 2:8). Likewise, we live by faith: “The life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God” (Galatians 2:20). Furthermore, “by faith ye stand” (2 Corinthians 1:24) steadfast as a Christian and “walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Cor. 5:7). We are to “follow after...faith” and “fight the good fight of faith” (1 Timothy 6:11-12).

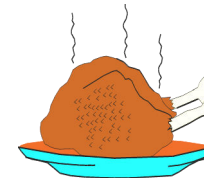
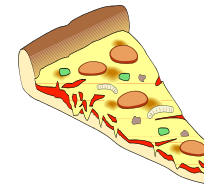
Since this list comprises only a sampling of things that must be done in, by, or through faith, it is no wonder that it **“is the victory that overcometh the world”** (1 John 5:4). JDM

Reprinted from the Days of Praise Podcast based on  
The Institute of Creation Research Quarterly Print Devotional

Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, “I find no pleasure in them...” Ecclesiastes 12:1

## December Celebrators

- 01 - Denise A. Wagang
- 02 - Linda A. Yaneza
- 02 - Janet B. Ramos
- 02 - Ma. Alexis J. Sunggay
- 03 - Rowena L. Quezada
- 04 - Erika Abijar
- 04 - Rachel Cabuenas
- 05 - Daisy Calzo
- 08 - Josephine A. Baban
- 09 - Gracelynn Abance
- 09 - Marilyn Joy B. Gamboa
- 10 - Dencio B. Abance
- 11 - Jovita R. Bondoc
- 14 - Santiago B. Sameon II
- 14 - Edith Latonio
- 16 - Christian S. Parohinog
- 16 - Mark Joseph N. Quizana
- 17 - Jane M. Bestre
- 20 - Gaspar Baldo, Jr.
- 20 - Jess Perdigon
- 21 - Sotero Denis
- 21 - Kinsha C. Glori
- 22 - Jess Solomon
- 22 - Diana Jane Geron
- 23 - Rosita Go
- 23 - Sherman C. Bestre
- 23 - Padmei Lara Geron
- 24 - Noel Espinosa
- 24 - Crispina Tugay-an
- 26 - Arlene G. Rimando
- 26 - Kaesha R. Palaypayon
- 26 - Sharon Kosgey
- 29 - Aldian R. Po
- 29 - Xelli Qea E. Parohinog
- 30 - Analyn B. Aronza



Please notify the M.I. Staff if your name should have been included in this list. Thank You.

## EVANGELISTIC LESSON SERIES [VIRTUAL OR FACE-TO-FACE]

### A. INTRODUCTORY LESSONS (5)

- LESSON NO. 1 – The Importance of the Word of God
- LESSON NO. 2 – Introduction to the Bible
- LESSON NO. 3 – How We Got the Bible
- LESSON NO. 4 – Overview of Bible History
- LESSON NO. 5 – Christ’s New Testament Replaces the Old Testament

### B. SEEKER’S LESSONS (6)

- LESSON NO. 1 – The Scheme of Redemption: A. God’s Plan for Man
- LESSON NO. 2 – The Scheme of Redemption: B. The Fall of Man
- LESSON NO. 3 – The Scheme of Redemption: C. Jesus the Savior
- LESSON NO. 4 – The Scheme of Redemption: D. The Steps of Salvation
- LESSON NO. 5 – The Scheme of Redemption: E. The Cost of Discipleship
- LESSON NO. 6 – The Scheme of Redemption: F. Where Will Your Life End?

### C. NEW LIFE LESSONS (12)

- LESSON NO. 1 – Assurance of Salvation
- LESSON NO. 2 – Obedient Living
- LESSON NO. 3 – Dealing With Temptations
- LESSON NO. 4 – Developing a Devotional Life
- LESSON NO. 5 – Developing a Prayerful Life
- LESSON NO. 6 – Discerning God’s Guidance
- LESSON NO. 7 – My Church Involvement & Spiritual Gifts
- LESSON NO. 7 – Supplement: Becoming Christians Only Biblical Church Organization
- LESSON NO. 8 – Partaking of the Lord’s Supper
- LESSON NO. 9 – Living Abundantly & My Giving
- LESSON NO. 10 – Becoming an Effective Soul-winner
- LESSON NO. 11 – Victorious Christian Living
- LESSON NO. 12 – Everyday Righteousness & Commitment to Moral Excellence

To enrol in any of the lessons, feel free to contact :  
Arnan Bayla @ 0918-698-6470  
Ezra Valdez @ 0977-160-8271

### SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ASSEMBLY

Singing & Prayers LORD’S SUPPER and OFFERING 9:00—9:30	Prayers & BIBLE STUDY 9:35—10:25	Singing, Prayers & MESSAGE 10:30—11:10	Greetings & ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:10—11:20
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### MIDWEEK DEVOTIONALS

6:00-8:00 PM

### SUNDAY PM ASSEMBLY

• Singing & Prayers & MESSAGE: 5:30—6:15  
• LORD’S SUPPER & GIVING: 6:15—6:30  
• Greetings & ANNOUNCEMENTS: 6:30—6:40

### MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

Top Floor Marlett’s Bldg.  
KM 4 MARCOS HIGHWAY, BAGUIO CITY, PHILS.  
e-mail - [midtownphcoc@yahoo.com](mailto:midtownphcoc@yahoo.com)  
Midtown website: [www.midtownchurchbaguio.org](http://www.midtownchurchbaguio.org)

Editorial Staff & Ministers:  
Arnan A. Bayla | Phone: 0918-698-6470  
Ezra V. Valdez | Phone: 0977-160-8271

ELDERS: Maril P. Bayating Sr., Jonathan A. Ramos,  
Santiago B. Sameon II, Ernesto B. Wagang  
DEACONS: Gregory C. Kitma, Felix L. Oñan Jr.